



For Immediate Release
November 17, 2017

Contact: Mathew Barewicz, (802) 828-4153
 Mathew.Barewicz@vermont.gov

Vermont Unemployment Rate Holds at 2.9 percent in October

The Vermont Department of Labor announced today that the seasonally-adjusted statewide unemployment rate for October was 2.9 percent. This reflects no change from the revised September rate. The national rate in October was 4.1 percent. As of the prior month’s preliminary data, the Burlington-South Burlington Metropolitan NECTA was tied for the fifteenth lowest unemployment rate in the country for all metropolitan areas. Overall, Vermont’s unemployment rate was the seventh lowest in the country for the same time period.

Commissioner’s Message

“As National Apprenticeship Week comes to a close, it is important to recognize the significance registered apprenticeships have played throughout American history up to and including the present day. Registered Apprenticeships have led millions into gainful employment and economic independence. The skills learned during apprenticeship training are in demand by employers across Vermont. If you or someone you know may be interested in training for a profession leading to guaranteed employment --- all the while getting paid to do so, please contact the Vermont Department of Labor’s Registered Apprenticeship program,” said Lindsay Kurrle, Commissioner of the Vermont Department of Labor.

Chart 1. Unemployment Rate, seasonally adjusted

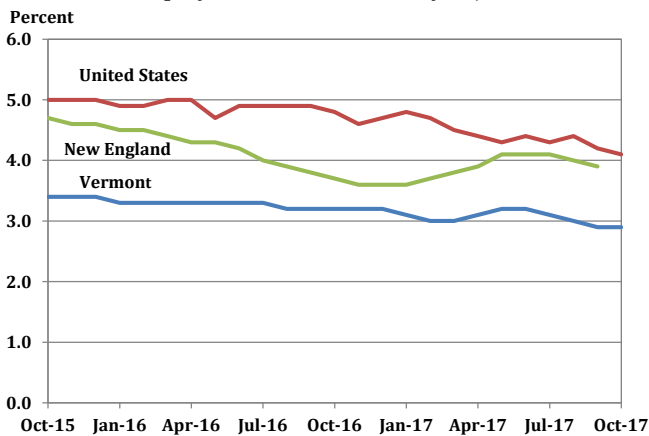
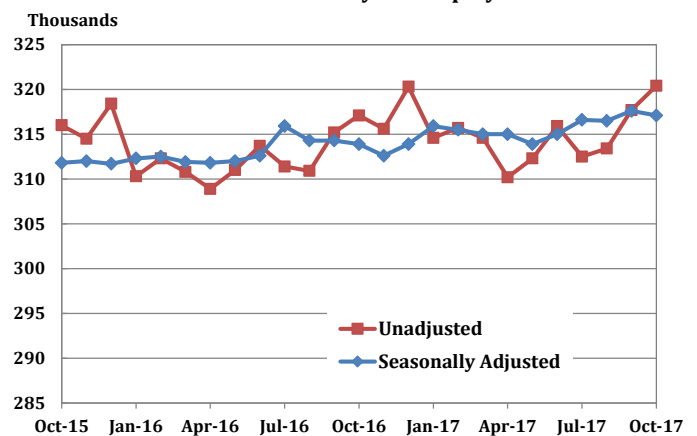


Chart 2. Vermont Nonfarm Payroll Employment



State of Vermont Overview

The Vermont seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate for October remains unchanged from the revised September statewide average of 2.9 percent. The comparable United States rate is 4.1 percent which experienced a one-tenth of one percentage point decrease from the revised September estimate. The seasonally-adjusted Vermont data for October show the Vermont civilian labor force increased by 450 from the prior month's revised estimate. The number of employed increased by 650 and the number of unemployed decreased by 150. The changes were not statistically significant in the seasonally-adjusted series.

The October unemployment rates for Vermont's 17 labor market areas ranged from 1.8 percent in White River Junction to 3.4 percent in Derby (note: local labor market area unemployment rates are not seasonally-adjusted). For comparison, the October unadjusted unemployment rate for Vermont was 2.3 percent which reflects a decrease of six-tenths of one percentage point from the revised unadjusted September level and a decrease of two-tenths of one percentage point from a year ago.

Analysis of Job Changes by Industry

Not-Seasonally-Adjusted

The preliminary 'not-seasonally-adjusted' jobs estimates for October show an increase of 2,700 jobs when compared to the revised September numbers. There was an increase of 100 jobs between the preliminary and the revised September estimates due to the inclusion of more data. The monthly increase seen in the October numbers was primarily attributable to seasonal movements in local government education. The broader economic trends can be detected by focusing on the over-the-year changes in this data series. As detailed in the preliminary 'not-seasonally-adjusted' October data, Total Private industries have increased by 3,300 jobs (1.3 percent) and Government (including public education) employment has remained flat in the past year.

Seasonally-Adjusted

The seasonally-adjusted data for October reports a decrease of 500 jobs from the revised September data. As with the 'not-seasonally-adjusted' data, this over-the-month change is from the revised September numbers which experienced no change from the preliminary estimates. The seasonally-adjusted over-the-month changes in October were mixed at the sector level. Those with a notable percent increase include: Arts, Entertainment & Recreation (+300 jobs or +5.9%) and Administrative & Waste Services (+600 jobs or +5.2%). Sectors with a notable percent decrease include: State Government (-900 jobs or -4.5%) and Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities (-300 jobs or -3.5%).

The Unemployment and Jobs Report for November is scheduled to be released on Friday, December 22, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.

Table 1. Vermont Labor Force Estimates, seasonally adjusted

| | October 2017 | September 2017 | October 2016 | Change From: | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| | | | | September 2017 | October 2016 |
| Civilian Labor Force | 345,200 | 344,750 | 345,200 | 450 | 0 |
| Employed | 335,200 | 334,550 | 334,150 | 650 | 1,050 |
| Unemployed | 10,000 | 10,150 | 11,050 | -150 | -1,050 |
| Unemployment Rate (%) | 2.9 | 2.9 | 3.2 | 0.0 | -0.3 |

Vermont's labor force, employment and unemployment statistics are produced from a combination of a Statewide survey of households and statistical modeling. The data are produced by the Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program (LAUS), a cooperative program with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (www.bls.gov/lau) and the Vermont Department of Labor (www.vtlni.info/labforce).

Table 2. Vermont Labor Market Areas, Labor Force Estimates
not seasonally adjusted

| Labor Market Area ¹ | Civilian Labor Force | October 2017 | | Unemployment Rate ² (%) | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|------------|------------------------------------|--------|--------|
| | | Employed | Unemployed | Oct-17 | Sep-17 | Oct-16 |
| Vermont Total | 343,700 | 335,800 | 7,900 | 2.3 | 2.9 | 2.5 |
| Barre-Montpelier | 25,950 | 25,350 | 550 | 2.1 | 2.7 | 2.3 |
| Bennington | 11,150 | 10,750 | 350 | 3.2 | 4.3 | 3.2 |
| Brattleboro | 21,850 | 21,300 | 550 | 2.4 | 3.2 | 2.6 |
| Burlington-South Burlington | 125,700 | 123,250 | 2,450 | 1.9 | 2.5 | 2.2 |
| Derby | 12,650 | 12,250 | 450 | 3.4 | 4.3 | 3.5 |
| Highgate | 10,150 | 9,950 | 250 | 2.3 | 2.9 | 2.7 |
| Manchester | 11,250 | 10,950 | 300 | 2.7 | 3.5 | 2.6 |
| Middlebury | 18,700 | 18,300 | 400 | 2.3 | 3.0 | 2.6 |
| Morristown-Waterbury | 17,700 | 17,200 | 500 | 2.7 | 3.3 | 2.9 |
| Newbury | 2,900 | 2,800 | 50 | 2.3 | 2.9 | 2.5 |
| Northfield-Waitsfield | 6,750 | 6,600 | 150 | 2.3 | 2.9 | 2.9 |
| Randolph | 7,300 | 7,150 | 200 | 2.5 | 3.1 | 2.7 |
| Rutland | 21,250 | 20,650 | 550 | 2.6 | 3.4 | 3.0 |
| Springfield | 10,500 | 10,250 | 250 | 2.3 | 3.0 | 2.8 |
| St. Johnsbury | 13,250 | 12,900 | 350 | 2.8 | 3.5 | 3.1 |
| White River Junction | 19,800 | 19,450 | 350 | 1.8 | 2.4 | 2.0 |
| Woodstock | 3,850 | 3,750 | 100 | 2.8 | 3.6 | 3.0 |

¹The area names above are common language titles; for official names of areas including encompassing cities and towns please refer to the Vermont Labor Market Area map (<http://www.vtlni.info/lmdef2015.pdf>).

²Rate is unrounded estimate for number of unemployed divided by total labor force, expressed as a percent.

Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program (LAUS) produced by the Vermont Department of Labor (www.vtlni.info/labforce.cfm) in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (www.bls.gov/lau).

Table 3. Vermont Nonfarm Payroll Employment, seasonally adjusted (thousands)

| NAICS Industry | Oct-17 | Sep-17 | Oct-16 | Change From: | | % Change From: | |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------|----------------|------------|
| | Prelim | Revised | Revised | Sep-17 | Oct-16 | Sep-17 | Oct-16 |
| Statewide, Total Nonfarm¹ | 317.1 | 317.6 | 313.9 | -0.5 | 3.2 | -0.2 | 1.0 |
| Total Private | 261.6 | 260.9 | 258.4 | 0.7 | 3.2 | 0.3 | 1.2 |
| Mining, Logging and Construction | 16.3 | 16.2 | 16.0 | 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.6 | 1.9 |
| Mining & Logging | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Construction | 15.5 | 15.4 | 15.2 | 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.6 | 2.0 |
| Manufacturing | 28.7 | 28.8 | 29.6 | -0.1 | -0.9 | -0.3 | -3.0 |
| Durable Goods | 17.5 | 17.7 | 18.4 | -0.2 | -0.9 | -1.1 | -4.9 |
| Non-Durable Goods | 11.2 | 11.1 | 11.2 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.9 | 0.0 |
| Trade, Transportation and Utilities | 55.4 | 55.8 | 55.5 | -0.4 | -0.1 | -0.7 | -0.2 |
| Wholesale Trade | 9.4 | 9.4 | 9.5 | 0.0 | -0.1 | 0.0 | -1.1 |
| Retail Trade | 37.8 | 37.9 | 38.0 | -0.1 | -0.2 | -0.3 | -0.5 |
| Trans., Warehousing & Utilities | 8.2 | 8.5 | 8.0 | -0.3 | 0.2 | -3.5 | 2.5 |
| Financial Activities | 12.1 | 11.9 | 12.0 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 1.7 | 0.8 |
| Finance & Insurance | 9.1 | 9.0 | 9.0 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 1.1 | 1.1 |
| Real Estate, Rental & Leasing | 3.0 | 2.9 | 3.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 3.4 | 0.0 |
| Professional and Business Services | 29.0 | 28.5 | 27.4 | 0.5 | 1.6 | 1.8 | 5.8 |
| Professional & Technical Services | 14.6 | 14.7 | 14.3 | -0.1 | 0.3 | -0.7 | 2.1 |
| Administrative & Waste Services | 12.2 | 11.6 | 10.8 | 0.6 | 1.4 | 5.2 | 13.0 |
| Education and Health Services | 65.8 | 66.0 | 64.7 | -0.2 | 1.1 | -0.3 | 1.7 |
| Private Educational Services | 13.7 | 13.5 | 13.4 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 1.5 | 2.2 |
| Health Care & Social Assistance | 52.1 | 52.5 | 51.3 | -0.4 | 0.8 | -0.8 | 1.6 |
| Leisure and Hospitality | 38.7 | 38.0 | 37.8 | 0.7 | 0.9 | 1.8 | 2.4 |
| Arts, Entertainment & Recreation | 5.4 | 5.1 | 4.5 | 0.3 | 0.9 | 5.9 | 20.0 |
| Accommodation & Food Services | 33.3 | 32.9 | 33.3 | 0.4 | 0.0 | 1.2 | 0.0 |
| Other Services | 11.1 | 11.3 | 10.7 | -0.2 | 0.4 | -1.8 | 3.7 |
| Government | 55.5 | 56.7 | 55.5 | -1.2 | 0.0 | -2.1 | 0.0 |
| Federal | 6.9 | 6.9 | 7.0 | 0.0 | -0.1 | 0.0 | -1.4 |
| State | 19.0 | 19.9 | 18.7 | -0.9 | 0.3 | -4.5 | 1.6 |
| Local | 29.6 | 29.9 | 29.8 | -0.3 | -0.2 | -1.0 | -0.7 |
| Burlington-S. Burlington Metro (NECTA) | 125.5 | 125.9 | 124.3 | -0.4 | 1.2 | -0.3 | 1.0 |
| Total Nonfarm | 125.5 | 125.9 | 124.3 | -0.4 | 1.2 | -0.3 | 1.0 |

¹Statewide Total Nonfarm is a summed total of major industries. The NAICS industry "Information" is not published seasonally adjusted because the seasonal component, which is small relative to the trend-cycle and irregular components, cannot be separated with sufficient precision.

Source: Current Employment Statistics Program (CES) produced by the Economic and Labor Market Information Division, Vermont Department of Labor (www.vtmi.info/ces.cfm) in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (www.bls.gov/sae).

Estimates are preliminary and subject to revision. See Annual Summary for details.

Table 4. Vermont Nonfarm Payroll Employment, not seasonally adjusted

| NAICS Industry | Oct-17 | Sep-17 | Oct-16 | Change From: | | % Change From: | |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|-------------|
| | Prelim | Revised | Revised | Sep-17 | Oct-16 | Sep-17 | Oct-16 |
| TOTAL NONFARM | 320,400 | 317,700 | 317,100 | 2,700 | 3,300 | 0.8 | 1.0 |
| TOTAL PRIVATE | 262,000 | 261,000 | 258,700 | 1,000 | 3,300 | 0.4 | 1.3 |
| GOODS-PRODUCING | 46,500 | 46,500 | 47,000 | 0 | -500 | 0.0 | -1.1 |
| MINING, LOGGING AND CONSTRUCTION | 17,500 | 17,500 | 17,100 | 0 | 400 | 0.0 | 2.3 |
| Mining & Logging | 900 | 900 | 800 | 0 | 100 | 0.0 | 12.5 |
| Construction | 16,600 | 16,600 | 16,300 | 0 | 300 | 0.0 | 1.8 |
| MANUFACTURING | 29,000 | 29,000 | 29,900 | 0 | -900 | 0.0 | -3.0 |
| Durable Goods ¹ | 17,700 | 17,800 | 18,600 | -100 | -900 | -0.6 | -4.8 |
| Non-Durable Goods | 11,300 | 11,200 | 11,300 | 100 | 0 | 0.9 | 0.0 |
| Food Mfg. | 5,400 | 5,400 | 5,400 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| SERVICE-PROVIDING | 273,900 | 271,200 | 270,100 | 2,700 | 3,800 | 1.0 | 1.4 |
| TRADE, TRANSPORTATION AND UTILITIES | 55,500 | 55,300 | 55,600 | 200 | -100 | 0.4 | -0.2 |
| Wholesale Trade | 9,400 | 9,400 | 9,500 | 0 | -100 | 0.0 | -1.1 |
| Retail Trade | 37,800 | 37,400 | 38,000 | 400 | -200 | 1.1 | -0.5 |
| Food & Beverage Stores | 10,000 | 9,700 | 10,100 | 300 | -100 | 3.1 | -1.0 |
| General Merchandise Stores | 3,300 | 3,300 | 3,400 | 0 | -100 | 0.0 | -2.9 |
| Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities | 8,300 | 8,500 | 8,100 | -200 | 200 | -2.4 | 2.5 |
| Transportation & Warehousing | 7,100 | 7,300 | 6,800 | -200 | 300 | -2.7 | 4.4 |
| Utilities | 1,200 | 1,200 | 1,300 | 0 | -100 | 0.0 | -7.7 |
| INFORMATION | 4,500 | 4,400 | 4,700 | 100 | -200 | 2.3 | -4.3 |
| FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES | 12,100 | 12,000 | 12,000 | 100 | 100 | 0.8 | 0.8 |
| Finance & Insurance | 9,100 | 9,000 | 9,000 | 100 | 100 | 1.1 | 1.1 |
| Real Estate, Rental & Leasing | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES | 29,500 | 29,200 | 27,900 | 300 | 1,600 | 1.0 | 5.7 |
| Professional & Technical Services | 14,700 | 14,600 | 14,400 | 100 | 300 | 0.7 | 2.1 |
| Administrative & Waste Services | 12,700 | 12,400 | 11,300 | 300 | 1,400 | 2.4 | 12.4 |
| EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES | 66,100 | 65,500 | 65,000 | 600 | 1,100 | 0.9 | 1.7 |
| Educational Services | 14,100 | 13,600 | 13,800 | 500 | 300 | 3.7 | 2.2 |
| Colleges and Universities | 9,200 | 8,800 | 8,800 | 400 | 400 | 4.5 | 4.5 |
| Health Care & Social Assistance | 52,000 | 51,900 | 51,200 | 100 | 800 | 0.2 | 1.6 |
| Ambulatory Health Care Services | 17,700 | 17,600 | 17,400 | 100 | 300 | 0.6 | 1.7 |
| Hospitals | 14,400 | 14,400 | 14,100 | 0 | 300 | 0.0 | 2.1 |
| Nursing & Residential Care Facilities | 7,600 | 7,600 | 7,500 | 0 | 100 | 0.0 | 1.3 |
| Social Assistance | 12,300 | 12,300 | 12,200 | 0 | 100 | 0.0 | 0.8 |
| LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY | 36,700 | 36,900 | 35,800 | -200 | 900 | -0.5 | 2.5 |
| Arts, Entertainment & Recreation | 5,200 | 5,300 | 4,300 | -100 | 900 | -1.9 | 20.9 |
| Accommodation & Food Services | 31,500 | 31,600 | 31,500 | -100 | 0 | -0.3 | 0.0 |
| Accommodation | 10,200 | 10,100 | 10,600 | 100 | -400 | 1.0 | -3.8 |
| Hotels & Motels | 9,100 | 8,800 | 9,500 | 300 | -400 | 3.4 | -4.2 |
| Food Services & Drinking Places | 21,300 | 21,500 | 20,900 | -200 | 400 | -0.9 | 1.9 |
| OTHER SERVICES | 11,100 | 11,200 | 10,700 | -100 | 400 | -0.9 | 3.7 |
| GOVERNMENT | 58,400 | 56,700 | 58,400 | 1,700 | 0 | 3.0 | 0.0 |
| Federal Government | 6,900 | 6,900 | 7,000 | 0 | -100 | 0.0 | -1.4 |
| State Government Education | 10,500 | 10,200 | 10,300 | 300 | 200 | 2.9 | 1.9 |
| Other State Government | 9,800 | 9,900 | 9,700 | -100 | 100 | -1.0 | 1.0 |
| Local Government Education | 23,600 | 22,200 | 23,900 | 1,400 | -300 | 6.3 | -1.3 |
| Other Local Government | 7,600 | 7,500 | 7,500 | 100 | 100 | 1.3 | 1.3 |

Source: Current Employment Statistics Program (CES) produced by the Economic and Labor Market Information Division, Vermont Department of Labor (www.vtmi.info/ces.cfm) in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (www.bls.gov/sae).

¹Publication of Computer & Electrical Equipment Mfg. and Fabricated Metal Products Mfg. has been discontinued as of January 2017.

Estimates are preliminary and subject to revision. See Annual Summary for details.